

Written Respirator Program and Recordkeeping

WAC 296-842-120

Summary

YOUR RESPONSIBILITY:

To develop, implement, and maintain a written program that provides clear instruction for safe and reliable respirator use

You must

Develop and maintain a written program WAC 296-842-12005	120-2
Keep respirator program records WAC 296-842-12010	120-5





Written Respirator Program and Recordkeeping

WAC 296-842-120

Rule

WAC 296-842-12005

Develop and maintain a written program



Exemption:

This section does **not** apply to respirator use that is voluntary.
See WAC 296-842-11005 for voluntary use program requirements.

You must

- (1) Develop a complete worksite-specific written respiratory protection program that includes the applicable elements listed in Table 3.



Note:

Pay for respirators, medical evaluations, fit testing, training, maintenance, travel costs, and wages.

You must

- (2) Keep your program current and effective by evaluating it and making corrections.
Do **all** of the following:
 - Make sure procedures and program specifications are followed and appropriate.
 - Make sure selected respirators continue to be effective in protecting employees. For example:
 - If changes in work area conditions, level of employee exposure, or employee physical stress have occurred, you need to reevaluate your respirator selection.

-Continued-

Written Respirator Program and Recordkeeping

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Rule

WAC 296-842-12005 (continued)

You must

- Have supervisors periodically monitor employee respirator use to make sure employees are using them properly.
- Regularly ask employees required to use respirators about their views concerning program effectiveness and whether they have problems with:
 - Respirator fit during use
 - Any effects of respirator use on work performance
 - Respirators being appropriate for the hazards encountered
 - Proper use under current worksite conditions
 - Proper maintenance.

-Continued-





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Rule

WAC 296-842-12005 (continued)

When developing your written program include applicable elements listed in Table 3.

Table 3 Required Elements for Required-Use Respirator Programs	
Selection:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Procedures for respirator selection - A list specifying the appropriate respirator for each respiratory hazard in your workplace - Procedures for issuing the proper type of respirator, if appropriate
Medical evaluation provisions	
Fit-test provisions and procedures, if tight-fitting respirators are selected	
Training provisions that addresses:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Respiratory hazards encountered during: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Routine activities • Infrequent activities, for example, bi-monthly cleaning of equipment • Reasonably foreseeable emergencies, for example, rescue, spill response, or escape situations - Proper use of respirators, for example, how to put on or remove respirators, and use limitations
Note:	<p>You do not need to repeat training on respiratory hazards if employees have been trained on this in compliance with other rules such as WAC 296-800-170, Employer Chemical Hazard Communication in the WISHA Safety and Health Core Rules.</p>
Respirator use procedures for:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Routine activities - Infrequent activities - Reasonably foreseeable emergencies
Maintenance:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Procedures and schedules for respirator maintenance covering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleaning and disinfecting • Storage • Inspection and repair • When to discard respirators - A cartridge or canister change schedule if air-purifying respirators are selected for use against gas or vapor contaminants and an end-of-service-life-indicator (ESLI) isn't available. In addition, provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The data and other information you relied on to calculate change schedule values (for example, highest contaminant concentration estimates, duration of employee respirator use, expected maximum humidity levels, user breathing rates, and safety factors).
Procedures to ensure a safe air quantity and quality if atmosphere-supplying respirators (air-line or SCBA) are selected.	
Procedures for evaluating program effectiveness on a regular basis	

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Rule

WAC 296-842-12010

Keep respirator program records

You must

- Keep the following records:
 - Your current respirator program
 - Each employee's current fit test record, if fit testing is conducted. Fit test records must include:
 - Each employee's current fit test record, if fit testing
 - Employee name
 - Test date
 - Type of fit-test performed
 - Description (type, manufacturer, model, style, and size) of the respirator tested
 - Results of fit tests, for example, for quantitative fit tests include the overall fit factor AND a print out, or other recording of the test.
 - Training records that include employee's names and the dates trained
 - Written recommendations from the LHCP.
- Allow records required by this section to be examined and copied by affected employees and their representatives.



Reference:

See chapter 296-62 WAC, Part B, Access to Records, for additional requirements that apply to medical records.



Notes
